

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 3/12/08, with respect to claims 1-32 and 34-54 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the claims 1-32 and 34-54 has been withdrawn.

2. Claims 1-32 and 34-54 are allowed

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 52, 53 are directed towards a method of finding members of a common interest group, said method comprising the steps of:

- providing a database for storing identifying information about each of said members and storing the database in at least one server accessible from within a radio network;
- determining when one of said members is in the vicinity of another of said members utilizing a mobile device of the one of said members and a mobile device of the another of said members;
- sending said identifying information corresponding to the one of said members to the mobile device of the another of said members when it is determined that the one of said members is in the vicinity of the another of said members;
- said mobile device of the one of said members using said identifying information for display to the one of said members for enabling identification of the another of said members by the one of said members;

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- the one of said members getting into direct contact with the another of said members by using the displayed identifying information for identifying the another of said members.

The closest prior art individually or in combination fails to render the above underlined unique features obvious.

Therefore claims 52, 53 and its dependent claims are allowed.

Claim 1, 40-42, 51, 54 is directed towards a method to find members of a common interest group with a mobile device, wherein:

- at least one database is built in which a plurality of interest groups are stored, these interest groups comprising users of terminals, the database being stored in at least one server accessible from within a radio network; See paragraphs 10,14,27-29 and 38
- a message being sent to at least one member if he is in the vicinity of another member of a common interest group. See paragraphs 10, 57, 58 and 59 so as to enable the identification of the another of said members by the one of said members when the one of said members has never seen the another of said members.
- wherein said message includes graphical image information to enable the visual identification of the another of said members by the one of said members.
- a method of billing a party for said sending of said message.

The closest prior art individually or in combination fails to render the above underlined unique features obvious.

Therefore claims 1, 40-42, 51, 54 and its dependent claims are allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUJATHA SHARMA whose telephone number is (571)272-7886. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew D. Anderson can be reached on 571-272-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sujatha Sharma/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618
Sujatha Sharma
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